

FOREWORD

The *County Commissioner Handbook* is published by Colorado Counties, Inc. for the benefit of county commissioners to aid them in performing their duties.

This handbook is devoted to describing the more formal and legal roles county commissioners play in local government, and the powers and duties they are authorized or obliged to exercise pursuant to the Colorado Constitution and the statutes passed by the Colorado General Assembly.

The role of county commissioner becomes more complex each year. Issues facing counties today are more numerous and more technical than ever before. As more responsibility is mandated upon or delegated to county government, and as counties provide more services to their residents, the need for technical information about the duties and responsibilities of county officials increases. As state and federal laws and regulations continue to produce an impact on counties, county officials must be ready to respond appropriately.

This edition of the *County Commissioner Handbook* is revised and reflects changes in county law produced through the actions of the General Assembly in the 2020 legislative sessions.

CREDITS

Colorado Counties, Inc. would like to extend special thanks to Dee P. Wisor, Esq., Sherman & Howard, L.L.C. for updating his article on TABOR and Charles A. Kuechenmeister, Esq., Murray Dahl Kuechenmeister & Renaud, L.L.P., who has given CCI permission to reprint his TABOR article. Thanks also to Tom Lyons, Esq., of Hall & Evans, L.L.C. for his articles on county codes of ethics and the Fair Campaign Practices Act.

LEGAL DISCLAIMER

It is not the purpose and intent of this handbook to make legal interpretations. This handbook does not represent an official position of Colorado Counties, Inc., or its members. The *County Commissioner Handbook* is designed only to serve as a brief general reference source. County commissioners should always seek advice and counsel from their county attorney.